

New Hours and Prices at the Midshore Regional Solid Waste Facility in Talbot County

On January 3, 2011, the Midshore Regional Landfill located on Barkers Landing Road near Easton will close and the new Midshore Regional Landfill II will open on River Road near the Town of Ridgely in Caroline County. For the first time in 20 years, Talbot County residents and haulers will be required to transfer trash to a regional landfill located outside Talbot County.

In the mid 1980's, Talbot County entered into a service agreement with Maryland Environmental Service (MES), Caroline County and Queen Anne's County whereby it was agreed that Talbot County would host the Midshore Regional Landfill for 20 years. Shortly after opening the new landfill, Kent County entered into the agreement, thus providing each county with an 80 year plan for disposing of solid waste.

During the past 20 years, Kent, Caroline and Queen Anne's County operated waste transfer stations, moving trash from these respective counties to the Midshore Regional Landfill near Easton. In the early 1980's, Talbot County briefly operated a waste transfer station in the Bay Hundred Area when a private landfill closed. Due to costs and increasing environmental regulations, all transfer operations from the Bay Hundred site ceased after a few years.

Since Talbot County began hosting the Midshore Regional Landfill 20 years ago, MES has operated and maintained a free homeowners' drop-off facility, also referred to as the HODO facility. In the 1990's, MES contracted with Waste Management to construct a waste transfer station. This waste transfer station, operated by Waste Management, allowed the company to move trash from other areas on the Delmarva Peninsula to the Midshore Regional Landfill; trash was then transferred out by Waste Management to their landfills.

The agreement between MES and Waste Management terminates on January 1, 2011 and the landfill operations will cease at the Barkers Landing Road location. As the waste transfer station is already a permitted facility, MES and Talbot County entered into negotiations to re-open the waste transfer station to accept waste from Talbot County beginning January 3, 2011. As part of these negotiations, the County Council agreed to keep the HODO as a free service for Talbot County residents for the first six months of 2011. During the FY2011-2012 budget process, Talbot County will review the option of keeping the HODO as a free service or consider setting up a ticket-book system similar to Queen Anne's County, or a permit system as used in Caroline County.

With the closure of the Midshore Regional Landfill trash will need to be transported a farther distance to Caroline County, necessitating that tipping fees at the Midshore Regional Solid Waste Facility in Talbot County be increased to \$61.00 per ton for solid waste. The waste transfer station will be open to all private, commercial and municipal trash trucks with MES operating the scale house. The operation of the HODO will remain the same but the tipping fee will increase by \$3.00 per ton and the hours of operation for the HODO and waste transfer station will be cut back to 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.,

Monday through Friday. The hours of operation for the HODO and waste transfer station will be 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Saturdays.

The following is a description of the services and the associated tipping fee.

Midshore I Homeowner Drop - Off (HODO) Prices

Homeowner Drop-Off - (Free of Charge)

- Trash - up to seven (7) bags
- Yard Waste – up to seven (7) bags or small pick-up truck load
- Used Oil
- Batteries
- Recyclables – Midshore Igloo Service

Homeowners bringing the following items to Midshore I must use the scale and will be charged \$61 PER TON (\$58 Disposal Fee + \$3 Transfer Fee to Midshore II). CHARGE IS PRORATED WITH A \$6 MINIMUM (160lb) AND WILL APPLY TO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- TRASH and DEBRIS (more than 7 bags)
- CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS
- FURNITURE
- SCRAP METAL
- APPLIANCES
- TIRES

All customers using trailers, box trucks, dump trucks, flatbed trucks, panel vans or any other type of commercial vehicle bringing items to Midshore I must also use the scale and will be charged \$61.00 PER TON (\$58 Tip Fee + \$3 Transfer Fee to Midshore II): CHARGE IS PRORATED WITH A \$6 MINIMUM (160lb).

- **YARD WASTE** - A CHARGE OF \$21.50 PER TON (\$18.50 Disposal + \$3 Transfer to Midshore II) FOR QUANTITIES LARGER THAN SEVEN (7) BAGS OR SMALL PICK-UP. Plastic bags must be emptied